

NFAC 3290-80

5 May 1980

Memorandum for C/NIC

Subject: Interagency Production Plans, 1980-81

1. The Panel recommends at this time that the following priority interagency projects be undertaken no later than the first quarter, CY 1981:

a. Soviet Objectives and Capabilities in the Middle East-South Asia region.

- Reasons for doing:

1. It is an area of critical interest to the United States, a region of high potential for local conflict and super-power confrontation, and an area of endemic, long term, extremely difficult problems that have defied resolution for centuries.

2. The area coincides geographically with much of the Moslem World which we do not know enough about and only dimly understand.

3. Other programmed production, such as a follow-on NIE 11-4 and the estimate on US-Soviet Competition in the NW Indian Ocean, will not adequately address the matter.

4. The question may strongly condition the terms of the Arab-Israeli military balance in the future.

(note: DIA might be prevailed upon to provide the principal drafter and much of the basic input.)

b. Soviet penetration (political, economic and military) of the Third World: Strategy, Tactics, Mode, Allies and Surrogates.

SIGNERS
5 May 1986

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- Reasons for doing: This subject will increase in importance to the United States and is getting insufficient attention at present.

2. The Panel intends to review the entire NFAC production plan during production planning Phase II.




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